

teague Island, Virginia, for their commercial products.<sup>1</sup> More than fifty years ago, he states, Mr. J. W. Whealton secured a pair of wing-tipped Wild Geese, which "were the nucleus of his present flock of 450 birds." New blood has been added at frequent intervals, thus avoiding in-breeding. Mr. Beebe's report of this experiment is detailed and full of interest, particularly his account of the habits of the species in confinement and the manner in which the birds are cared for and controlled. The geese are plucked several times a year for their feathers, and thus yield a small revenue. Other species of geese, and several species of swans, are likewise reared on this island by Mr. Whealton, and various crosses have been made between different species of geese, the hybrids being in some cases fertile, in others not so.— J. A. A.

**Shufeldt on the Osteology of *Arachnothera magna*.**<sup>2</sup>— Dr. Shufeldt here describes in detail the osteology of one of the larger species of the family Nectariniidæ, in comparison with that of the Cærbidæ, Meliphagidæ, Certhiidæ, and Trochilidæ. He finds that osteologically the species is distinctly passerine, with faint resemblances in some features to the Trochili, but these "have no bearing whatever upon affinity." The plate is a lateral view of the skeleton, from a photograph by the author.— J. A. A.

**Macpherson's 'The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle.'**<sup>3</sup>— This is a most interesting narration of Mr. Macpherson's success in watching and photographing a pair of Golden Eagles and their young in the Grampian Hills of Scotland during the breeding season of 1909. The eyrie was discovered on the 23d of April, when it contained two eggs. It was first visited by the author and the eggs photographed, of course with the eyrie and its surroundings, on May 3, when a shelter of stones was constructed for the concealment of the camera. On the 19th of May there were two eaglets in the nest, apparently about six days old; they were photographed, and arrangements were completed for photographing later the old birds at the nest. How successfully this was carried out is recorded in the thirty-two plates illustrating the present brochure, where not only the young birds are shown at various stages of growth and in many attitudes, but the old birds as well on their visits to feed and care for the young. Only one of the young birds reached maturity, leaving the eyrie about the end of July when about eleven weeks old. The narrative is a record of patience and

<sup>1</sup> Breeding Canada Wild Geese on Chincoteague Island, Va. By C. William Beebe. Zoöl. Soc. Bull., No. 36, October, 1909, pp. 576-579, with half-tone illustrations.

<sup>2</sup> On the Comparative Osteology of the Passerine Bird *Arachnothera magna*. By R. W. Shufeldt, M. D., C. M. Z. S. Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, 1909, pp. 527-544, pl. lxxviii.

<sup>3</sup> The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle Photographed and described by H. B. Macpherson With thirty-two mounted Plates London Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn W. C. | MCMIX. Large Svo, pp. 1-45, pll. 1-32 (mounted photographs).